

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 1 SPRING 2011

# IUP

MAGAZINE

*How the Campus Has  
(and Hasn't) Changed*



THEN & NOW

BY TONY ATWATER

## At the Core

This issue of *IUP Magazine* includes exciting news of ongoing and transformational capital projects that are changing the landscape of the IUP campus.

One of the most visible changes to the campus is the \$270-million Student Residential Revival, which will be completed with the opening of the Crimson Suites this coming fall. IUP also is contributing to a face-lift for the Indiana community

with the construction of the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex, which will be open in the spring of 2011. IUP and community members alike are enjoying the beautiful new Performing Arts Center, which was achieved through the renovation of Fisher and Waller halls.

While these are the most recent and visible landmarks for the Indiana campus, many other significant physical plant projects have been completed in the past decade or so. The university has renovated three classroom buildings—Uhler, Wilson, and Cogswell—and its student services center, Clark Hall. The Student Cooperative Association has greatly expanded and reenergized the Hadley Union Building, making it a destination for the university community.

On the South Campus, IUP has honored the late Owen Dougherty, a longtime baseball and football coach, with the creation of Owen Dougherty Field, and Ruth Podbielski, a champion for women's sports, with new softball facilities—Podbielski Field. We have also added a soccer field for our varsity women's team.

The regional campuses offer new facilities, including a renovated IUP Fairman Centre in downtown Punxsutawney.

We have reestablished our commitment to the continued health of the “heart” of our campus, the Oak Grove, and to increasing green space on campus with the establishment of the Allegheny Arboretum as a campuswide, living museum.

While important and impressive, progress at IUP is not limited to physical plant improvements. In the last fifteen years, we have established the only endowed honors college in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education—the Robert E. Cook Honors College—and celebrated more than \$10 million in gifts from its namesake and benefactor, a member of the Class of 1964; achieved unconditional Middle States reaccreditation; developed a comprehensive long-range strategic plan; established the Common Freshman Reader program, Freshman Convocation, and the Center for Student Success; introduced the Center for Civic Engagement and Student Leadership; and carefully and

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## Then and Now

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campus, and it's true that most of the old  
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**Band of Brothers**— Even the burden of incurable illness can't  
break bonds first forged in an IUP fraternity two decades ago.

**Serious about Comics**— A Robert E. Cook Honors College  
student explores the portrayal of women in autobiographical  
comics versus mainstream comics and traditional literature.

**Then and Now**— All the vintage and contemporary photos that  
appear in this issue are here, plus more that couldn't be  
squeezed into the print edition.

**FRONT COVER:** Students who walked north toward the RUB from Grant Street in the eighties  
passed Fish (foreground) and Wallace halls on the right and Keith Hall on the left. In the dis-  
tance, the power plant's smokestack is visible. Today, only a smidgen of smokestack peeks from  
above Wallmark Hall's roof. *Photography by Keith Boyer*

**BACK COVER:** IUP Music Theater, directed by Sarah Mantel, performed *Selections from  
The Merry Widow* at IUP Plays Pittsburgh in November. The annual Heinz Hall event showcases  
the musical talents of IUP students and faculty members. *Photography by Keith Boyer*



# letters

## After Sixty Years, a Sweatshirt!

*Editor's Note: The following letter was received by IUP Magazine's records editor, Susan Kirchner. A photo of the writer in his new sweatshirt appears in Alumni Extra at [www.iup.edu](http://www.iup.edu).*

Thank you for your help in sending the phone number of the Co-op to me. I ordered the Indiana sweatshirt, and when the fall and winter seasons appear here in the desert, I will certainly display my Alma Mater, among the numerous USC shirts.

I can recall that in 1947–1951, we did not have access to Indiana sweatshirts. I can remember that when I was student body president, the dean arranged a trip to Columbia University in New York City for the secretary, treasurer, and me to attend. I was given the honor of delivering a speech to a convention of college-elected student body government personnel.

We traveled by train and stayed at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. What a wonderful memory. We, from Indiana, did not have identity sweatshirts. Now, I have one! As soon as the cool weather comes, I will wear it, and my wife will take a picture of me. I will send you a copy.

William H. Keister '51, M'65  
Desert Hot Springs, Calif.

## Aviatrice ID

*Editor's Note: IUP researcher Theresa McDevitt received the following e-mail message in response to the photo that appeared at the top of page 3 in the Fall issue.*

Tonight, when catching up on my IUP Magazine, I came across a photo of my dear friend and sorority sister (Alpha Sigma Alpha). It was a photo of Jean Liddicoat Hall from Frackville, Pa. (She was the woman standing in the foreground.) We

were so proud of her when she was chosen for the aviation training program in '40 or '41. We graduated in '41, and, as far as I remember, she did not continue in aviation but went on to have a lifetime career in teaching Home Economics in Frackville, where she lived until she died, about three or four years ago. I visited Jean several times in my trips east to Pennsylvania from my home in Palo Alto, Calif.

My mother, Maud Sensenich Griffith, told me about her time at Indiana Normal in the early 1900s. After dinner in John Sutton Hall, the young men and women would promenade in the long hallway. One group would walk clockwise and the other, counterclockwise. I suppose it was a mild form of courtship. It wasn't till I traveled in Spain that I learned the Spanish had done it for a very long time. I've forgotten the Spanish word for it.

When I was at Indiana, Jimmy Stewart would occasionally come home to visit his parents. He would be invited to speak to the student body at ISTC. At that time he had graduated from Princeton and was beginning to work in New York City in live theater. I don't believe he sang or danced, so he just talked to us and had a Q-and-A session.

Gwen Griffith Brechin '41  
Palo Alto, Calif.

## Wonderful Turnabout

There are good things to say about the IUP Magazine, but special domains are the class notes, where we see the impressive and often unique contributions made by IUP grads. Much as I implore them, Social Studies Education grads are such an uncharacteristically modest crowd. Those who suffered this old one are enjoying each other via e-mail, shared on-line teaching, etc.

Last spring, one of our teachers over at Richland High School trained me in regard to on-line co-teaching of a sociology class.

This continues now. In the process, we involved another of our gang teaching at Buena Vista High School in Virginia. An IUP D.Ed. teaching at Indiana State University who is a tech whiz became interested in what we were doing. The upshot: we have an article in the chapter he submitted for a book on latest modes-methods in tech-teaching!

Our social studies students are Virgil Wenturine '96 and Paul Bevington '99. Our D.Ed., who worked under George Bieger, is Larry Tinnerman D'07. Altogether, these IUP grads are making a cutting-edge difference in social studies education. And, in the process, they taught this latter-day Luddite how to tech-teach! Wonderful turnabout when students teach the old prof!

John Larner  
Altoona, Pa

*Editor's Note: The writer is a professor emeritus in the IUP History Department.*

## Well-Written, Well-Read

I was reading the magazine yesterday and wanted to tell you how much I liked "Staying Positive." It was interesting and well-written. In fact, I read the whole thing, which is the gauge I use to measure a good piece of writing.

Thanks for continuing to create a magazine I really enjoy.

Pat Frantz Cercone '85  
Bradford, Pa.

## Appreciation

The most recent issue of the IUP Magazine is wonderful. I especially enjoyed the article on "Where Pap Worked."

Thanks for keeping me on the mailing list. As always, you're doing a fabulous job.

Peter Smiths  
Fresno, Calif.

*Editor's Note: The writer was IUP's first vice president of Institutional Advancement and has filled a similar role at Fresno State since the midnineties.*

# frontdoor

cts, figures, short subjects, quick takes, facts, figures, short subjects, quick takes, facts, figures, short sub

## IUP NUMBERS

### Enrollment through the Years

BY KAREN GRESH

In Fall 2009, IUP experienced its all-time greatest enrollment. For many of its 135 years, the institution has had remarkably stable numbers, for the most part growing steadily. Blips and burps occasionally occurred, reflecting events on a wider

stage, such as influenza epidemics and world wars. Enrollments in *selected* years are reflected below, as provided by the IUP Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment.

Academic Year	Total	Academic Year	Total	Academic Year	Total	Academic Year	Total
1875-76	225	1938-39	1,611	1962-63	4,671	1983-84	12,526
<i>Doors open on May 17, 1875.</i>		1939-40	1,554	<i>Punxsutawney Campus</i>		1984-85	12,806
<i>at Indiana State Normal School</i>				<i>opens</i>		1985-86	12,938
1881-82	392	1940-41	1,587	1963-64	5,224	1986-87	13,248
		1941-42	1,399	<i>Armstrong Campus opens</i>		1987-88	13,404
1911-12	1,202	1942-43	1,253	1964-65	5,706	1988-89	13,650
1915-16	1,318	1943-44	890	1965-66	6,334	1989-90	13,861
1917-18	1,050	1944-45	1,037	<i>On December 18, 1965,</i>			
1918-19	893	<i>Five males are in 1945</i>		<i>ISC becomes IUP</i>		1990-91	14,398
<i>Spanish Flu epidemic</i>		<i>graduating class</i>		1966-67	7,295	1991-92	14,620
1919-20	1,016	1945-46	1,084	1967-68	8,411	1992-93	14,357
		1946-47	1,422	1968-69	9,104	1993-94	14,062
		1947-48	1,590	1969-70	10,242	1994-95	13,814
1920-21	812	1948-49	1,606			1995-96	13,879
<i>Normal School comes under</i>		1949-50	1,724	1970-71	10,347	1996-97	13,680
<i>commonwealth ownership</i>				1971-72	10,532	1997-98	13,736
1925-26	1,126	1950-51	1,699	1972-73	10,788	1998-99	13,790
1926-27	1,237	1951-52	1,822	1973-74	10,859	1999-2000	13,442
<i>Indiana State Teachers College</i>		1952-53	1,688	1974-75	11,006		
<i>confers first collegiate degree—</i>		1953-54	1,661	1975-76	11,119	2000-01	13,410
<i>on a transfer student from</i>		1954-55	1,790	1976-77	11,420	2001-02	13,457
<i>Chatham College</i>		1955-56	2,081	1977-78	11,727	2002-03	13,671
1929-30	1,558	1956-57	2,361	1978-79	12,019	2003-04	13,868
		1957-58	2,613	1979-80	12,145	2004-05	13,998
1930-31	1,538	1958-59	2,982			2005-06	14,081
1931-32	1,565	<i>ISTC becomes Indiana</i>		1980-81	12,278	2006-07	14,248
1932-33	1,489	<i>State College</i>		1981-82	12,399	2007-08	14,018
1933-34	1,330	1959-60	3,317	1982-83	12,503	2008-09	14,310
1934-35	1,361			<i>Act 188 establishes</i>		2009-10	14,638
1935-36	1,458	1960-61	3,665	<i>Pennsylvania State System</i>			
1936-37	1,477	1961-62	4,106	<i>of Higher Education</i>			
1937-38	1,293						



## A LOT HAS CHANGED AT IUP OVER 135 YEARS.

The pace of physical change accelerated with the 2006 start of the Residential Revival, in which most of the campus's residence halls have been replaced. While it's true that some new buildings have taken the place of old, perhaps not everything is so very different.



# THEN & NOW

University Photographer Keith Boyer compared a few campus vistas of today with how they looked in the fifties, sixties, seventies, and eighties. (In some cases, a tree, or a building, blocked an exact re-creation.) More Then and Now pairings appear on the *IUP Magazine website* at [www.iup.edu](http://www.iup.edu).

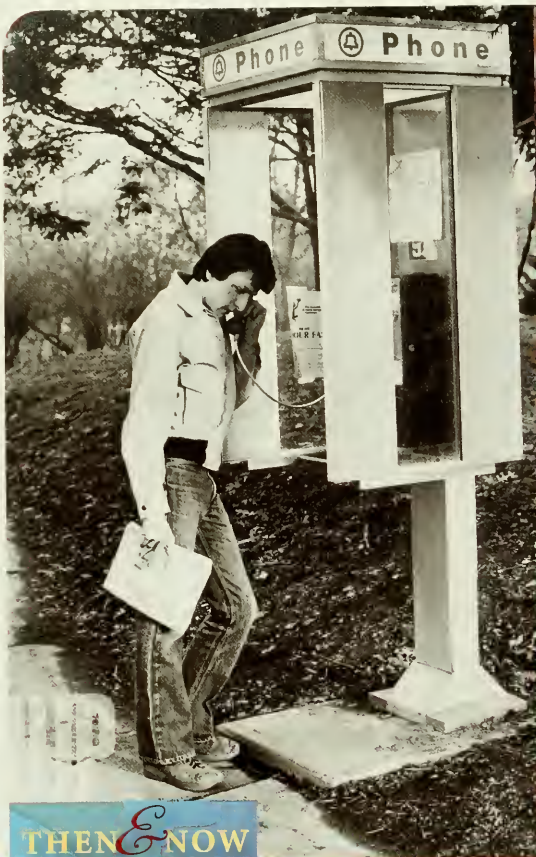




In the seventies, students lined up in the Oak Grove to register for Spring semester. The IUP Performing Arts Center can be seen in the background of the contemporary photo. The bench in the foreground is still there. LEFT: The Co-op Store (with an O missing on its sign) stood along Garman Avenue, southeast of the main Student Union building. Today, the HUB Fitness Center is there.







## THEN & NOW

There used to be a phone booth at the foot of the stairs from the Oak Grove to Sutton Hall. On the lawn outside Sutton today, with Wallwork Hall in the background, communication still occurs. BELOW: Students in the eighties who crossed Grant Street from Sutton Hall and walked toward Maple Street passed Wahr and Langham halls on the left and Turnbull Hall on the right. A little farther west on Grant today, a crossing leads to Delaney Hall at left, Futt Hall at right, and the Suites on Maple in the distance.







Up until the seventies, Sutton Hall extended much farther west than it does now. The section of the building to the right of the downspout in the black-and-white photo was demolished to make way for Stapleton Library. Today, a remnant of the World Trade Center (right) occupies a portion of the space (near the University Museum entrance), along with a granite memorial to those who died on September 11, 2001.







## THEN & NOW

Both photos were taken at the foot of Sutton Hall's north steps, with McElhaney, Leonard, and Wilson halls on the right. The fire hydrant hasn't moved. **BELOW:** In the seventies, what once was called a chapel in Sutton Hall was a reading room. In the early eighties, it became Gorell Recital Hall.







In the forties, Grant Street had houses. Sutton Hall would have been at right in this view toward Eleventh Street. Perhaps the same trees stand today along the bank between Sutton Hall and Grant Street. Delaney (foreground) and Putt halls are at left.





To say that IUP in the eighties had ivy-covered halls was an understatement. Today, McElhaney Hall has emerged from its green cloak and sports a plaza that includes summertime flowerbeds. BELOW: In the late sixties, two decades before the Cogeneration Plant was built, there was only one power facility along Pratt Drive, and there were houses on either side of it. About this time, the railroad tracks disappeared from along the street (which had once been called College Avenue). Today, the stone wall parking lot is gone from the west side of Pratt, and Wallwork Hall is to the north in the distance.







Keith Boyer

● **NAMESAKE:** Gealy Wallwork stands in front of the IUP residence hall that since December has borne his name. A university trustee and chair of the Administration and Finance Committee for nearly two decades, he has played an important role in many of the Residential Revival and other campus building projects. In 2006, Wallwork received the IUP President's Medal of Distinction. A Kittanning resident, he worked for more than forty years in operation and management positions in the mining business, from mine level through corporate headquarters. He retired as president and chief executive officer of the Arthur T. Walker Estate Corporation, a holding company for the Shawmut Companies. Wallwork Hall was previously called Sutton Suites.

● **ENLIGHTENED:** "The government should explain itself to the people," said Bob Woodward, the 2009 speaker in IUP's First Commonwealth Endowed Lecture series. Woodward spoke in Fisher Auditorium in November. An associate editor of the *Washington Post*, he has won two Pulitzer prizes, including one for his reporting of the Watergate scandal. "Hate was the poison that destroyed [Nixon] and his presidency," he said. While President Gerald Ford's subsequent pardon of Nixon "looked like the highest corruption," to Woodward it "was actually the highest act of courage." Asked what threat should most concern Americans, he replied, "Secret government. Democracies die in darkness."



# achievements

## Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree

- Awarded to Pennsylvania Secretary of Education Gerald Zahorchak M'88 at IUP's Midyear Commencement ceremonies in December. More information will appear in the Summer issue of the magazine and also may be found at [www.iup.edu/commencement](http://www.iup.edu/commencement).

## New Appointment, Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Board of Governors

- Jonathan Mack, an Indiana attorney and member of the IUP Council of Trustees

## New Appointment, IUP Council of Trustees

- Mary Esther Van Shura, who has an extensive background in the nonprofit, education, and public affairs sectors and who has served since 2006 as director of Community Affairs in the office of Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato

## 2009 Pennsylvania Teacher Educator of the Year

- Linda Norris, English, selected by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators

## Nation's Top ROTC Cadet

- Erik Lloyd '02, a current IUP graduate student, emerged as number-one in a field of 4,700 cadets who participated in last summer's Leader Development and Assessment Course for senior ROTC cadets at Ft. Lewis, Wash. A story about Lloyd and the ROTC program at IUP will appear in the Summer issue.

## IUP Legislative Fellow

- Pennsylvania Representative Gary Haluska, who represents the 73rd Legislative District in Cambria County, selected as the 2009 Legislative Fellow in a program begun in 1998 by IUP-APSCUF

## Friend of Higher Education

- Jack Wagner '74, currently serving his second term as Pennsylvania's auditor general, who has more than a quarter-century of elected public service, including a decade on Pittsburgh City Council and a decade as a state senator

## Best Business Schools

- Eberly College of Business and Information Technology included, for the sixth consecutive year, in the Princeton Review's Best 301 Business Schools, 2010 edition

## Phi Kappa Phi Chapter of Merit

- IUP's chapter recognized with eighteen other campus chapters nationwide for the designation. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest, and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines and has chapters on more than three hundred campuses.

## 2009 Silver Telly Award

- Awarded to *Fish Eyes*, a film produced and written by Communications Media student Sam Hakes '08 in collaboration with other IUP students.

## Young Alumni Achievement Awards

The IUP Alumni Association annually recognizes a recent outstanding graduate of each undergraduate college.

The 2009 recipients:

- **Eberly College of Business and Information Technology**—Amanda Gordon '03, fixed utility financial analyst, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Office of Trial Staff

- **College of Education and Educational Technology**—Lance Neeper '01, M'07, doctoral candidate in Special Education, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- **College of Fine Arts**—Kenneth Collins '97, artistic director, Temporary Distortion

- **College of Health and Human Services**—Michael Brock Herr CA'97, '02, executive chef, Oakland Hills (Mich.) Country Club

- **College of Humanities and Social Sciences**—Kevin Lyons '02, Spanish Education teacher, Greensburg Salem School District

- **College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**—Maureen O'Connor M'99, D'02, director of Neuropsychology, Bedford (Mass.) Veterans Administration Medical Center; instructor of Neurology, Boston University

● **BACK HOME IN INDIANA:** Homecoming Parade marshals Ron Frey (left), Joan Zima Moss, and Bob Cleminson represented the Class of 1959, which held its fiftieth reunion last year.



Keith Beyer





WEB EXCLUSIVE

## Band of Brothers

BY CATHY HAMBYSAK AND BRUCE DRIES

"I have an unusual personality, and I've always been a gamer, reader, outdoorsman, and a somewhat full type of guy."

By most, that statement would not seem worthy of special notice. But a flick, Scott McGuire shows four minutes to create that sentence, spelled out one character at a time on a controller-controlled solely through the movement of his eyes.

McGuire has Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. ALS is a disease that usually attacks both upper and lower motor neurons and causes degeneration throughout the brain and spinal cord. In short, the mind is clear while all muscle function deteriorates.

As an undergraduate student at IUP,

McGuire enjoyed an active life that included sports, mountain biking, hiking, and hiking the trail his future wife, Heidi Hitt, and also joined Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity, a brotherhood that would make an impression on his life far beyond his expectations.

In the summer of 1994, McGuire began noticing subtle signs of tremors and spasms, although his body masked all signs of old injuries. In 1997, after realizing that something was seriously wrong, he was ultimately diagnosed with ALS.

Although McGuire and his fraternity brothers had remained close after graduation, McGuire's diagnosis brought them all together again. When the TKE brothers learned that McGuire had ALS, they orga-

nized a camping trip to show their support. Longtime friend and fraternity brother Bob Zemick built Scott and Heidi's house. Several brothers show up regularly for what they call "help days" to assist in regular maintenance and seasonal outdoor work.

"Scott was and still is everything that TKE represents," said Dan O'Leary '90. "He is that guy who puts all others before himself... He is the motivation to push yourself harder even if all others have given up on you. He is truly an inspiration for all that know him."

Read more of the story of Scott McGuire and the TKE brotherhood in the Web Exclusive at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).



# mentors

**IUP**'s president, **Tony Atwater**, was selected by the *New Pittsburgh Courier* for its 2009 Men of Excellence recognition. One of fifty men chosen, he was named in the education category. "I am sincerely honored to receive this prestigious award," Atwater said. "I have been blessed to enjoy success as a journalist, as a university professor, and as a university president, and I take pride in serving my community and facilitating the success of others." The program recognizes African-American male executives, business owners, and community leaders who have displayed proven success within their profession, are positive role models whose contributions encourage others, and are active in community service or organizational involvement. Alumnus **Davie Huddleston '68** was also selected for the 2009 list.

**IUP** English Department faculty member **Linda Norris** was named the 2009 Teacher Educator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators. Norris has been educating teachers for eighteen years and has directed IUP's undergraduate English Education program for twelve years. With coauthor **sj Miller**, she received the 2007 Richard A. Meade Award from the National Council of Teachers of English for the book *Unpacking the Loaded Teacher Matrix: Negotiating Space and Time Between University and Secondary English Classrooms*.

**Valeri Helterbran**, a member of the Professional Studies in Education faculty at IUP, was named Teacher Educator of the Year two years earlier.

**Teresa Shellenbarger**, a faculty member in Nursing and Allied Health Professions, has been chosen to serve as a mentor in the Faculty Leadership Mentoring Program of the National League for Nursing and the Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future. The program pairs five early-and-midcareer faculty members with five fellows of the league's Academy of Nursing Education who are recognized leaders in nursing education. The paired participants will work together throughout 2010 on individual leadership development and on a group project to be presented later this year in Las Vegas. Last fall, master's and bachelor's degree programs in Shellenbarger's department were approved for unconditional ten-year accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

**T**he August 26, 2009, edition of the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* profiled Pittsburgher **Irwin Kauffman**, who has taught guitar at IUP since 1977. At seventy-two, the article said, Kauffman is the oldest member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, in which he has played the cello since 1964.

**A**n article a month later in the *Tribune-Review* described the poetry of retired English Department faculty member **Ronald Smits**. Smits said he began to write poetry while pursuing his doctoral degree at Ball State University. He was influenced by the work of Allen Ginsberg, he said, and wrote his doctoral dissertation on Ginsberg's work. Smits's second book of poems, *Push*, was published by the University of Scranton Press in November and may be ordered through the University of Chicago Press website.

**F**rom 1947 to 1952, **Margaret Gisolo** taught physical education at Indiana State Teachers College. Long before she came to Indiana, though, Gisolo was famous. During the summer of 1928, she became what one author has called "a folk heroine in the national sports press." *The New York Times* ran her picture with the caption "The Girl Babe Ruth of Blanford, Ind." Her power-hitting presence on a boys' American Legion Junior baseball team resulted in a ruling by the nation's first baseball commissioner, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, refusing to bar her participation. Every media outlet from rural weeklies to Movietone News covered Blanford's progress through county, district, sectional, and state tournaments, right up to the regional tournament at Comiskey Park. In Chicago, Blanford lost its first game—the

game that would, thanks to a rules change, be the last one a girl would play in Junior Legion for nearly a half-century.

Gisolo kept playing baseball and even—as a member of the Hollywood Movie Stars Baseball Team—was welcomed at the White House in 1931 by President Herbert Hoover. Her baseball career earned her money for college, and she received a bachelor's degree from Indiana State College in Terre Haute in 1935 and a master's degree from New York University seven years later. From 1954 to 1980, she developed, and eventually chaired, the dance department at Arizona State University (where, coincidentally, one of her students was future baseball great Reggie Jackson). When, in 2000, at the age of eighty-six, she stopped traveling to national tennis matches, she was ranked first in doubles and second in singles. In 2006, the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., opened Diamond Dreams, a permanent exhibit saluting women in baseball. It features a baseball autographed for Gisolo in 1928 by Commissioner Landis. Margaret Gisolo died on October 20 in Tempe, Ariz., only hours before her ninety-fifth birthday. 🐦







WEB EXCLUSIVE

# Serious about Comics

BY ELAINE JACOB SMITH

Anyone who thinks comic books are for kids—or, to stereotype, for adolescent boys who lack real-life adventures—should check out Melissa Rogers's research.

Rogers is a senior in the Robert E. Cook Honors College majoring in English and Spanish. But the focus of her honors thesis for the McNair Scholars Program, which helps first-generation college students prepare for graduate school, is more a product of her minor, Women's Studies.

She's combining her penchant for feminism and women's literature with another interest: comics. The result, "From the Gutter to the Mainstream: Women Comics Writers

and Marginalization," explores three autobiographical comic books by women and how they challenge the portrayal of women in mainstream comics and in traditional literature.

Her research also touches on comics as a medium and how their format affects the way a story is read. "Gutter" in her thesis title refers to the term in comics for the space between frames—where readers must imagine what takes place. Don't be fooled by the pictures and speech bubbles: Rogers believes comics can be as valid literature as any other text.

She recently gained insight into the mak-

ing of comics during a summer internship at Marvel Comics in her native New York. As an editorial intern in the Marvel Heroes Office, she did research for the artists and writers, rounded up editorial approvals on covers, wrote recap pages (the opening pages that refresh readers on previous issues), and placed the speech bubbles in *Captain America: Theater of War* and other titles not yet released. Note: There's more to bubble placement than deciding where the "Wham!" or "Pow!" should go. 🦁

Read more about Rogers's research and internship in the Web Exclusive at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).



Lauren Fisher with her championship belt

# SAVED BY THE BELL

BY BOB FULTON / *Photography by Keith Boyer*



When her life was in turmoil—when she had neither a home nor hope—Lauren Fisher desperately needed salvation. She found it in the strangest of places.

# A BOXING RING.

The so-called sweet science wasn't a sport so much as it was a lifeline for Fisher, an aimless dropout who was seemingly down for the count—at least until she walked into the IUP Boxing Club gym and laced up a pair of gloves.

A fashion merchandising major who graduated in December, Fisher proved a quick study. Though still wet behind the ears, she decided on two-time U.S. champion Cristina Cruz to claim the 119-pound elite title at the Police Athletic League national boxing tournament in San Antonio in October. As Fisher hoisted the massive championship belt to resounding cheers at Municipal Auditorium, few in the crowd could have guessed at the dark period that preceded her meteoric rise in the sport.

Fact is, her personal life was once a mess. Fisher had a falling-out with her parents after telling them she was gay; she was no longer welcome at her home in Deptford, N.J. (Fisher and her parents have since been reconciled.) Distraught, she began failing her classes and eventually left school in midsemester. She lacked direction, lacked focus, lacked drive.

"I was in a funk for about a year," said Fisher, who returned to IUP in Fall 2008. "Boxing helped pull me out of it. Boxing has kind of made me feel alive again, I guess, because I was very depressed for like a year. I went through a lot. I lived in like nine different places in a year. I needed something to do. And that's kind of how I got into boxing."

Incredibly, Fisher claimed the prestigious PAL title only eight months after losing her debut—a bout that followed barely a week of training. In the veritable blink of an eye, a raw neophyte blossomed into a national champion and a contender for the 2012 London Olympic Games, the first to feature women's boxing.

"It's just amazing how far she's come," IUP coach Rick Fanella said. "She is a viable candidate for the Olympics, which is really remarkable, considering how long she's been boxing."

Fisher, who owned a 9-3 record at press time, compensates for her inexperience with a phenomenal fitness level—she lettered in basketball and track for IUP before casting her fortunes in the ring—exceptional quickness, and a matchless work ethic, all wrapped up in a taut, muscled package. Assistant coach Mike Donatelli realized right away that Fisher was a diamond in the rough.

"What makes her such an outstanding boxer? It's her dedication, her discipline, her attitude, and her willingness to learn," said Donatelli, who fashioned a 69-6 record in the 1980s as an Indiana County Athletic Club boxer under 1949 IUP grad Johnny Kostas and twice fought future world champion Michael Moorer in Golden Gloves competition.

"She's definitely a mile ahead of her peers, she really is. If you watch her fight, it looks like she has much more experience than she actually has."

Watch Fisher fight, and something else is readily apparent: For someone of her stature (5-foot-4, 117 pounds), she packs a seismic punch. Even her male sparring partners occasionally wind up on their backsides.

"I've seen Lauren knock at least a half-dozen guys to the floor, and one through the ropes," Fanella said. "For a physically small woman, she hits like a ton of bricks. Her power is very noticeable."

Fisher's opponents in San Antonio can attest to that. She pursued Harita Aleem around the ring "like a pit bull," according to Fanella, before winning their semifinal bout on a second-round technical knockout. Fisher stayed aggressive in the final

against Cruz, a seasoned Golden Gloves champion with more than fifty fights on her résumé, several of them against international foes.

"I knew that she had the experience that I don't have, but I wasn't really intimidated by her," Fisher said. "I try to tell myself to do certain things when I'm in the ring: fight my fight, stay positive, and throw punches in bunches. I repeat those things before I go into the ring. And once the bell rings, I give it my all. So that's what I did."

She then did something totally out of character in a sport where champions rarely reveal the humanity beneath their tough-as-nails façades: She broke down in tears.

"Lauren was a little embarrassed by that," Fanella said. "But after achieving what you've worked so hard for, and overcoming the adversity that she did, she just had an emotional release."

Her triumph in Texas qualified Fisher for the U.S. championships this summer in Colorado Springs, Colo., and was expected to catapult her into the top three in the USA Boxing rankings. Invitations to international events are likely to follow.

"USA Boxing fights around the world all the time—they just took a women's team to Ecuador," Fanella said. "By my calculations, Lauren will be number-three in the country at 119, which puts her on the short list of who USA Boxing is going to call to represent the United States to fight internationally. And fighting internationally would give her more confidence, greater skill development ... all those other variables that you can't get at the local level."

Fisher is already visualizing success on a global level.

"If I were to map it out the way I want it, I would go to the Olympics in 2012 and win a gold medal," she said. "From there, I would get my first world title after boxing in the pros for a while. And then I want to just stack up more world titles."

Lofty ambitions for a relative newcomer to the game, to be sure, but don't discount her. As opponents have discovered, it's sheer folly to underestimate Fisher, who found almost immediate success—as well as salvation—in the boxing ring.

"I expect great things from her in the future," Donatelli said. "Lauren has a great chance of making the Olympic team if she sticks with it and maintains the same path she's going on right now and the same attitude. I think she's going to go far." 🐾



# name droppers

By Mike Hoffman

**IUP** held its annual Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony in September and honored eleven former athletes, coaches, and administrators.

**Molly Carr '99, M'01** led the IUP basketball and softball teams to unprecedented heights. She was the senior catalyst of the 1998-99 basketball team that advanced to the Elite Eight and was a three-time All-PSAC West selection in softball, including the 1999 conference player of the year when IUP made its first appearance in the NCAA tournament. She had a 4.0 grade-point average during her college career and was the IUP Woman of the Year as a senior.

**Dan Cox '70** led IUP in rushing with 696 yards and scored ten touchdowns in 1968 and was an integral part of the team that reached the prestigious Boardwalk Bowl in Atlantic City, N.J. He earned an honorable mention spot on the Associated Press All-America team and was named the Westmoreland County Small College Player of the Year that season.

**Sally Bevan Johnson '21** was a tireless champion of IUP and worked hard to enable the university to achieve the status it enjoys today. She was a trustee from 1954 to 1956 and served as chairperson of the Alumni Projects Committee from 1949 to 1958. Her leadership helped protect both John Sutton Hall and Breezeedale from destruction. In 1984, the newest campus building at the time was christened Sally B. Johnson Hall.

The name of **Bill Laubach '90** is found throughout the baseball



Keith Boyer

record book; he was a member of two teams that won PSAC championships and qualified for the NCAA tournament. Although his career ended almost twenty years ago, he still holds school records for career hits, at bats, and total bases and is in the top ten in six other categories. IUP went 32-11

his sophomore season in 1988 and 35-10 two years later, when he was a senior.

**Bill McDonald** was the offensive coordinator at IUP in 1966-68 and a member of the coaching staff that helped the Indians reach the Boardwalk Bowl in his final season. That year, IUP averaged

38.4 points per game and scored 75 versus Northwood, a record that stood for nearly forty years. IUP went 24-3 during his stint in Indiana.

**Tom McGinnis '77** was recognized as an All-American by the Golf Coaches Association of America three times from 1975 through 1977. He helped IUP finish among the nation's elite during his career, including an NAIA District 18 championship, a fourth-place finish at the NAIA national tournament, and a tenth-place showing at the NCAA Division II tournament as a senior in 1977.

**Chuck Mills** was the head coach at IUP for only two seasons, but the impact he had on the university's football program continues to this day. He won twelve games against only three losses and two ties, and in 1963 the Indians earned their first national ranking, laying the groundwork for the great Indians teams of the latter part of the decade.

**Arch Moore** began his baseball coaching career in 1971 and immediately put the Indians on the national map. IUP won the NAIA District 18 and Area 8 titles and won two games at the NAIA World Series in Phoenix, before finishing in third place. He added PSAC titles in 1973 and 1980 and finished with 182 wins—still the most by any coach in IUP baseball history.

**Alan Pugh '92** was a two-time All-American and won the national championship in the discus at the 1992 NCAA track and field meet in San Angelo, Tex., after finishing third in the event

For up-to-the-minute news on IUP sports, visit [www.iupathletics.com](http://www.iupathletics.com). There you'll find all the newest news Namedroppers can't bring you because of deadline constraints.



the previous season. He won three PSAC titles in the discus, added a second-place finish in the shot put his senior year, and was named the Most Outstanding Field Athlete of the Meet.

**Gina Gover Steve '88** helped lead the Indians to the United States Gymnastics Federation national championship in 1988, an event that combined NCAA Division II and III teams, to highlight a career that saw her set several school records and earn a truckload of honors. She placed third on the uneven bars in 1986 to earn All-America honors and was ninth in the vault, missing out on a second All-America spot by just 0.05 points.

**Larry Judge '64** received the annual Bellingr Award for his service to the university and to the athletic department in particular. He spent twenty-three years as sports information director, covering three stints, and was a part of many notable moments in IUP athletics history, including the 1968 Boardwalk Bowl football game, the 1990 and 1993 Division II football championship games, and consecutive trips to the men's basketball Elite Eight in 1994 and 1995.

While the fall brought a new class for the IUP Athletic Hall of Fame, it also saw the loss of recent inductee **Jeff Neral '90**. Neral was a member of the class of 2008 after earning four All-America honors in the javelin, including the national championship in 1990. He died on October 25 as a result of injuries suffered in a traffic accident in Baltimore, where he had served on the police force for seventeen years.

Potential future Hall of Famers were in action during the Fall semester, and two in particular concluded spectacular careers at IUP.

Senior cornerback and kick returner **Akwasi Owusu-Ansah** was named to the American

Football Coaches Association All-America team after a 2009 season which saw him score five touchdowns and establish himself as a likely selection in the April 2010 NFL Draft. Owusu-Ansah had three punt returns and two kickoff returns for touchdowns this past season to tie for the national lead regardless of division. He scored on a total of nine returns in his career and was second in the nation in interceptions as a junior in 2008.

**Sarah Romasco** finished her soccer career as the school's all-time leader in goals scored with 65, assists with 40, and points with 170. She was named to the PSAC West first team all four seasons and was the Player of the Year as a freshman in 2006. In November, she helped lead the Crimson Hawks to the third round of the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history, including a 1-0 victory over West Chester, the nation's fifth-ranked team, in the Atlantic Region tournament.

The IUP golf team cruised to its third straight PSAC championship in the fall with a 23-stroke victory over California and Millersville and had its third different individual medalist during that span. Sophomore **Brad Boyle** and senior **Gavin Smith** tied for first place after the regulation 36 holes before Boyle birdied the first playoff hole. Smith had won the PSAC title in 2007, followed by Leo Acklin a year ago. Smith will be attempting to defend his NCAA Division II title when the golf season resumes in March.

Freshmen have played a key role in the turnaround of the Crimson Hawks tennis fortunes. IUP won all five of its dual matches during its fall campaign, led by the first-year trio of **Chloe Pike**, **Katie Eaton**, and **Emilia Osborne**. Pike and Eaton are ranked ninth and twelfth, respectively, in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Atlantic Region poll, and the

doubles team of Pike and Osborne is ranked second. IUP is tenth in the region, its first ranking since 2005.

Former IUP assistant men's basketball coach **Andy Sachs** received his first head coaching assignment when he was hired at Bethany (W.Va.) College. Sachs was at IUP in 1996-2001 and helped the Indians reach the Elite Eight in 2000. Prior to his appointment at Bethany, Sachs spent five seasons as an assistant coach at Holy Cross.

One of Sachs's former players, **Rob Norris '99**, was promoted to associate head coach at Canisius (N.Y.) College, where he was an assistant coach the past three seasons. Norris played two seasons at IUP and was a captain his senior year in 1998-99 when the team won twenty-two games.

Other former IUP players made news in the coaching ranks in the fall. **Kristin Slemmer '07** led the Peters Township High School field hockey team to the WPIAL Class AAA title with a 1-0 overtime victory over Fox Chapel in November. Slemmer played lacrosse at IUP in 2004-07 and had 32 goals and 28 assists in her career.

**Jodie Swavelly-Brown '06** was

appointed an assistant softball coach at Columbus State (Ga.) University in July. Swavelly-Brown was a standout pitcher at IUP from 2003 to 2006 and holds the school record for career strikeouts with 643 and shares the mark for wins with sixty-two. She previously coached at Kutztown in 2008-09 and helped the Golden Bears win forty-six games and a number-nine national ranking her final season.

A two-sport athlete while at IUP, **Jackie Rutkowski '07** will be the first coach for the Albion (Mich.) College lacrosse program, which begins play this spring. Rutkowski was a first-team All-PSAC lacrosse selection her senior year when she set school records with 50 goals, 29 assists, and 79 points. She is first in career assists with 58 and points with 192 while ranking second with 134 goals. Rutkowski was also a goalkeeper on the 2005 IUP field hockey team.

**Dan Thompson '05** won the 105th West Penn Open golf title for the second time in three years in June at the Westmoreland Country Club. Thompson is the assistant pro at the Indiana Country Club and finished his career as a member of the IUP golf team in 2006.



● The author of this year's Common Freshman Reader, Bill Strickland visited the Indiana campus in November. He talked to the English classes of faculty members Barbara Kraszewski and Sue Johnson, toured College of Fine Arts facilities, and presented a well-attended lecture in Fisher Auditorium. Strickland is president and CEO of Pittsburgh's Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and Bidwell Training Center. His book is *Make the Impossible Possible*

# all about alumni

There are many ways for IUP alumni to stay connected with the university—up close and personal or on line

● **GOT YOUR BACK:** Judging from evidence displayed on one student's back, a snowball fight had recently concluded near Leonard Hall in this photo from the midsixties. Is that an officer of the law in the center? Can anyone identify the perpetrators or the passersby? If you have answers, let us know. If you have photographs, scrapbooks, or memorabilia to donate, contact Harrison Wick at the University Archives in Stapleton Library at 724-357-3039 or [hwick@iup.edu](mailto:hwick@iup.edu).



University Archives

## ● 1940s

A few months ago, Carlisle's Military Heritage Museum had a reenactment program in which visitors walked along a path leading to each of the major wars. In the World War II section, they came upon a seventeen-year-old portraying **Willard Dominick '46** and sitting sketching in a "barracks" while schoolchildren and other visitors passed by. Willard's extensive collections of WWII journals, sketches, and artifacts are housed at the museum.

**Marian Price Le Donne '47** retired in 1986 from the Ringgold (Pa.) School District. She and her husband, Joseph, have been married sixty-two years and live in the Finleyville house they built.

Although he's "retired," Presbyterian pastor **Vernon Elgin '49** nonetheless travels the globe as a volunteer

missionary from a base in Kent, Wash. He has been a professor at the University of Livingstonia in Malawi, Africa, and has also served in Scotland; New Zealand; Bali, Indonesia; Bogotá, Colombia; and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Now, he is writing and publishing books.

## ● 1950s

The Altoona Area School District Foundation has established a memorial endowment fund in the name of **Donald Lingafelt '50**, who died in September 2008. He had taught social studies at Roosevelt Junior High School for forty years until retiring in

1990 and served as chairman of his department.

In the September 2009 issue of *Williamsburg, Virginia's Next Door Neighbors* magazine, there's a wonderful article about **Barbara Smelas Husted '56** and the fact she is still teaching after fifty-three years. A teacher's assistant for a kindergarten class, she "stays healthy with daily vitamins and hour-long walks with a neighbor at 6 a.m." The full article is accessible in the archives at [www.wburgndn.com](http://www.wburgndn.com). Thanks to **Laura Phillippi Gienger '40** and her niece, **Anita Malone Shaffer '54**, for bringing it to light.

## ● 1960s

The late **Don Gill '62** was unsurpassed in his devotion to IUP and his dedication to the annual Southwest Florida alumni events. In recognition of Don's legacy, organizers of the 2010 event are continuing this memorable weekend, filled with great times and special IUP friendships. Alumni are invited to join hosts **George Glarner '56** and **Betty Glarner, Sam Scavo '61** and **Marlene Inman Scavo '59**, and **Lorna Gill**, Don's wife, for the fourteenth annual reunion, February 26 and 27 at Lely Resort in Naples. More information is available at [www.iup.edu/alumni](http://www.iup.edu/alumni) or from the Office of Alumni Relations

### Designation of Codes

**AA** Associate of Arts Degree   **CA** Academy of Culinary Arts   **D** Doctoral Degree   **M** Master's Degree



at 1-800-937-2487.

McKeesport (Pa.) High School inducted seven into its Hall of Fame in the fall, and among them was 1955 McKeesport graduate **Bob Hofman '62, M'67**. Enlisting in the Navy at seventeen, Bob eventually found his way to IUP, where he enrolled on his twenty-first birthday. He taught high school science in Ohio for a few years before returning to IUP for a master's degree.

After a year at the University of Minnesota on a National Science Foundation grant, he became part of a research project in the Antarctic. For the next thirty years, until his retirement in 2000, he played a leading role in formulating federal policy. As scientific program director for the Marine Mammal Commission, he helped develop recovery plans for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Florida manatee, California sea otter, and Northwest Atlantic right whale. According to the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, he still leads about four cruise ship tours to Antarctica annually.

Since she closed her four-person music editorial company two years ago, **Merelyn Davis '64** has exploited a longtime love of photography. Last fall, one of her photographs appeared in a show at the Brand Library Art Galleries in Glendale, Calif. More information about the image, which involves an abandoned sofa and a freeway bridge, is in *IUP Magazine's* Alumni Extra.

#### EXTRA

Freelance writer **Patricia Orendorff Smith '64** is featured on WDUQ's "Favorite Spots" segment, in which she talks about Indiana County's Blue Spruce Park. She also posted a piece about Yellowstone National Park on the WQED website in conjunction with Ken Burns's park special. Sapphire, N.C., residents **Carole Kowalski Dubinsky '68** and her husband, John, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in August.

**Davie Huddleston '68** was selected by the *New Pittsburgh Courier* for its 2009 Men of Excellence recognition. He is

vice president, Human Resources, College Relations for PNC Financial Services group. Among the others honored at a mid-November recognition event was IUP President Tony Atwater. The program annually recognizes fifty African-American male executives, business owners, and community leaders.

Pittsburgher **John Winslow '69** retired from the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Navy Reserve and now enjoys semi-retirement as a part-time energy consultant with Leonardo Technologies, Inc. In the fall, he was looking forward to the arrival of a third grandchild to, he said, "triple the fun of being a grandfather." John wishes smooth sailing to his IUP classmates, especially his fellow Chemistry Department graduates.

### ●1970s

Last April, **Wanda Stitt-Gohdes '70** received the 2009 National Business Education Association Educator of the Year Award. She had also been the recipient

of the 2008 John Robert Gregg Award for lifetime achievement and contribution to business education. She has both a master's degree and a doctorate from the University of Georgia, where she is a professor.

**Richard Murray '72** has been named executive director of the Ohio School Facilities Commission by the state's governor. Since 1997, the agency has spent \$6.5 billion statewide on construction and renovation of public school buildings. Rich has served as mayor of Marble Cliff, Ohio, and headed Ohio LECET, a labor-management cooperation trust.

A special advertising section in the July 2009 issue of *Pittsburgh* magazine cited **David Delisi '74, M'76, M'80** and four other accountants as "Five Star Wealth Managers—Best in Client Satisfaction." The president of a large Greensburg CPA firm, David taught at IUP for two years in the eighties.

The name of **Donald Watkins '74** was added to the Alumni Honor Roll of

Last summer, four members of the **Class of 1963** got together to celebrate the fiftieth year of their friendship, initially formed at Grant House when they were ISTC freshmen. The two photos here are mirror images of each other—the black-and-white one taken in 1959 and the other taken last summer.



In the fifties photo, left to right: **Kathy Kightlinger McBride, Marge Lebedda Butzler, Janet Neigh, and Andrea Matola Lauer**. In the 2009 photo, the order is reversed. When Andrea sent the photos to *IUP Magazine*, she noted, "Sadly, three months after the fiftieth reunion, Janet Neigh passed away unexpectedly."

#### EXTRA

Pottstown (Pa.) High School in October. A 1969 graduate of the school, he retired after twenty-four years in Naval aviation, accumulating more than four thousand hours of flight time and more than one thousand carrier landings. He is now associated with Open System Sciences, a small information technology business in northern Virginia.

**Colleen Paytash Myers '75, M'96** was one of eleven finalists for Pennsylvania's 2009 Teacher of the Year. They were chosen from about 150,000 educators across the state, according to Pennsylvania Education Secretary **Gerald Zahorchak M'88**. Colleen is a first-grade teacher at Purchase Line South Elementary School in Indiana County. She has been with the district since 1976 and also serves as a board member and codirector of technology for the Southcentral Pennsylvania Writing Project, which is based at IUP.

Respiratory therapist  
**Marianne Drevna Dayhoff '76**

has joined the staff of the Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center.

A partner in the Hartford, Conn., office of McCarter & English, **Charles Ray '76** has become a Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, an honorary society composed of less than one-half of 1 percent of American lawyers. Fellowship is by invitation only and is based on effectiveness and accomplishment in litigation, both at the trial and appellate levels.

**Hazel Johnston M'78** teaches music in grades four, five, and six of Indiana County's Penns Manor School District. Last June, she received an *izzit.org* Teacher of the Year Award for 2009. With it went a \$1,000 prize, attendance at the Winning Ideas Weekend conference in Chicago, and the David and Annette Jorgensen Award for Excellence.

Penn State's College of the Liberal Arts honored **Sophie Wisniewski Penney '79, M'80** with a Sparks Centennial

Medal. As the former director of development in the college, she led one of the largest fundraising units at Penn State. She also established the Wisniewski Family Enhancement Fund in the Department of Psychology. Now serving as the first development director for Foxdale Village, a Quaker-based continuing care retirement community, she also taught the inaugural section of a course called American Philanthropy at Penn State in the fall.

**Lou Vigliotti '79** sent *IUP Magazine* a photo from IUP graduation day in 1979 and one from a thirty-year reunion last September in Ocean City, Md. They appear in Alumni Extra at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine). According to Lou, "Interestingly, four of the five people are the same, but the middle person is different. In the 1979 photo, one of our friends was missing, and in the 2009 photo, that person was there, but one of the people in the 1979 photo was missing." Shown in one photo or the other (or both)

are Lou, **Mark Embeck '79, Bill Hoffman '79, Bob Slack '79, Steve Bauer '79, and Dan Bruni '79.**

EXTRA

## ●1980s

**Celia Miles D'80** is coeditor and contributor to a just-released anthology called *Clothes Lines*, involving seventy-five western North Carolina women. Celia on the book: "From Birkenstock to bras, red shoes to polyester pink pants suits, prom dresses to funeral gowns, women as different as their garments reflect on their fascination with and feeling for the clothes they wear, remember, revere (or not)." The book is available from [www.catawba-publishing.com](http://www.catawba-publishing.com) or from [celiamiles@fastmail.fm](mailto:celiamiles@fastmail.fm).

**Charles Neral '80** has joined SafeNet as senior vice president and chief financial officer. Previously vice president of finance for IBM's \$22-billion software business, he has an MBA degree from New York University. SafeNet is a global leader in information security.

A promotion in the fall made **Bill Bracken '81** national director of dealer sales for Assurant Solutions, a multinational specialty business-to-business insurance company. The husband of **Sandra Wuske Bracken '82**, he splits his time between his home in northern Ohio and Assurant's Atlanta and St. Petersburg offices.

**Patty Mitchell Waseman '81** sent a photo to *IUP Magazine* from a twenty-nine-year reunion that took place recently at a Cracker Barrel in Frederick, Md. It shows **Karen Wutzke Rubrecht '80, Judy Simons Jackson '81, and Patty**, all of whom had been roommates in Scranton Hall and Carriage House. Patty reports that "Judy, who is now the senior executive assistant to the chief



## HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Pennsylvania's High School Principal of the Year is **Ann Mendicino Bisignani '78**, principal of South Fayette High School. Selected for the honor by the Pennsylvania Association of Elementary and Secondary School Principals, she received her award at the association's state conference in October and represented the commonwealth at the National Principal of the Year Award ceremony in Washington, D.C. A Business Education teacher for eighteen years in the school district, she was an instructional specialist for one year and became principal in 1999. Under her leadership, a new high school was developed and built, and the senior graduation project she initiated has become a model for others to follow. According to **Linda Buchek Hippert '75**, South Fayette's former superintendent and now executive director of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, "Mrs. Bisignani is the model high school principal. She leads with passion and conviction for what she believes is best for the children."



IUP's Eberly College of Business and Information Technology last fall welcomed **Rick Ubinger '81** as the college's Executive in Residence. Rick is vice president of finance, chief financial officer, and treasurer of Universal Stainless & Alloy Products, Inc., which manufactures specialty steel products primarily for aerospace, power generation, and petrochemical applications. In 2007, the company, based in Bridgeville, Pa., was listed by *Forbes* as eighty-second on its list of the "200 Best Small Companies." Rick's responsibilities include financial forecasting and reporting, strategic development, treasury, taxes, and investor relations. A member of the IUP Business Advisory Council, he is also on the board of Westley Spectrum Services Foundation. He and his wife, Lori, live in Peters Township with their four children.



procurement officer at Honeywell International in Phoenix, made the trip to Lancaster, Pa., for her sister's wedding in October. While in Pennsylvania, she reunited with Karen, who teaches family and consumer science at Gainesville (Va.) Middle School, and Patty, receptionist and cash receipts clerk for Stock and Leader law firm in York, Pa., for breakfast." See the photo in Alumni Extra.

EXTRA

The law firm of Cozen O'Connor has named **Mark Opalisky '84** of its Philadelphia office a shareholder. Practicing in the subrogation and recovery department, with a focus on insurance subrogation litigation, he has successfully litigated federal and state court cases throughout the U.S. He lives in Ambler.

Last June, **Lizanne Pezzetti Kile '85** and her husband, **Dave Kile '85**, hosted a "Greek retreat" at their home in Maryland for friends who had traveled from as far as the states of Washington and Florida. Prompted by an electronic reunion on Facebook, the get-together of families included many who had not seen one another for more than twenty years. A photo in Alumni Extra at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine) shows Dave and Lizanne, **Steve Collins '84**, **Jackie Blocher Moran '84**, **Laura Lipinski Dragos '85**, **Anita Fisanich Foster '85**, **Rich Miller '85**, and **Linda Tharrington Osteraa '85**.

EXTRA

**David Mawhinney '86** has joined Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse as an Executive in Residence. The organization provides capital investments and customized formation and business growth programs to

the region's life sciences enterprises. In addition to his IUP degree, Dave has an MBA from Carnegie Mellon.

A note from **Maureen Ryan '86**: "[I] was looking for an event planner at George Washington University and found a great one in **Meredith Giantzos '07**. During the interview, we discovered that we had the same professors at IUP, albeit twenty-one years apart. We had a good laugh over that (well, Meredith laughed, but I cried when I realized how old I was.) There was no doubt that Meredith was the perfect person for the job, and it's great to have someone to reminisce with about the fun times at IUP (and Al Patti's)." A photo of Maureen, Meredith, and the

GW mascot appears in Alumni Extra at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).

EXTRA

The chairperson of Reed Smith's firmwide, twenty-attorney State Tax practice group, **Lee Zoeller '86** is the current president of the Institute for Professionals in Taxation, which has a membership of more than 4,800 tax professionals throughout the U.S. and Canada. A partner at the international law firm, Lee works in Reed Smith's Philadelphia office. More information appears in Alumni Extra at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).

EXTRA

Keith Boyer



*People* magazine senior writer **Monica Rizzo '87** came to campus in the fall to talk to Journalism classes and speak in Stouffer Hall's Beard Auditorium. She has been covering entertainment in southern California for more than two decades and previously worked for *Sports Illustrated* and *Us Weekly*. The author of ten teen-entertainment books, she's finishing her first mass-market hardcover biography with Cheryl Burke from *Dancing with the Stars*. Monica lives in Sherman Oaks with her husband and seven-year-old son.

## The Official IUP Magazine Form: Communication Is a Two-Way Street.

By completing and mailing the form below, you help IUP keep your records up to date and *IUP Magazine* coming to you. **Doing this also ensures that the information reaches the magazine.** If you'd prefer to save a stamp, you're welcome to send the same information to the magazine's editor at [kpgresh@iup.edu](mailto:kpgresh@iup.edu) or simply complete the on-line form at [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).

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(Please make checks payable to the Foundation for IUP.)

☐ Here is news for All about Alumni (Class Notes, Lost and Found, Weddings, Arrivals, or Deaths).  
I understand it may appear both in the print magazine and on line.

**Please note:** News that appears in this issue arrived in the magazine office on or before November 20. If your news came in after that date, it will appear in the Summer 2010 issue. Submissions for the Summer issue must arrive in the magazine office no later than **May 20, 2010**. News arriving after that date will appear in the Fall issue. **News for All about Alumni (Class Notes), Weddings, and Arrivals must be reported either by or with the explicit approval of the subject(s). Photos become the magazine's property and may or may not be returned.**

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**Mail to Karen Gresh, IUP Magazine, John Sutton Hall, Room 316, 1011 South Drive, Indiana, PA 15705; fax to her at 724-357-5512; or send her e-mail at [kpgresh@iup.edu](mailto:kpgresh@iup.edu). If sending e-mail, please include the magazine label number that begins with @.**

A special advertising section in the July 2009 issue of *Pittsburgh* magazine cited financial planner **Vic Conrad '87**, founder of Pinnacle Financial Strategies, as one of a group of "Five Star Wealth Managers—Best in Client Satisfaction." His office is in Wexford.

When **Joe Kralik '87** married Barbara Cyphers in October at St. Vincent Basilica in Latrobe, Deacon **Joe Compomizzi '85** was one of the celebrants. The two Joes have known each other since their freshman year as

neighbors in Esch Hall. Joe Kralik is an account executive with Albert Gallatin Home Care, a firefighter and EMT with the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department, and the Pennsylvania chairman for the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors. He was also the first manager of IUP's HUB Rock Café from 1989 to 1991. Among the wedding guests were Joe's sisters, **Karen Kralik '75** and **Patricia Kralik Tylka '79**; his brother-in-law, **Terry Tylka '80**; Barb's sister and brother, **Elaine Cyphers '83**

and **Barry Cyphers '76**; **Linda Hagopian '86**; and **Kathleen Connelly Tobin '85, M'92**. Joe's best man was **Kevin Hughes '92**.

Among the Faces in the Crowd in the October 26, 2009, issue of *Sports Illustrated* was that of Josh Seidel. The senior from Johnstown's Bishop McCort High School set a single-game rushing record (327 yards) in a 69-35 win over Richland. He also tied the McCort single-game touchdown record (six) held by his father, **Dave Seidel '87**, who died in August. Dave's six

touchdowns were in a 1981 game against Ligonier.

Virginia school principal **Lizette "Tish" Howard '89, M'90** has published a book called *Poverty Is NOT a Learning Disability: Equalizing Opportunities for Low SES Students*. In the Title I school Tish heads, 43 percent of the families are classified as having low socioeconomic status. Her research focus as a Ph.D. candidate at George Mason University was on children in poverty. Information about Tish's book is available on the website of its publisher, Corwin Press.

## ●1990s

Since last spring, **Warren Hilton '95, M'99** has been assistant dean for student affairs at Drexel University School of Public Health and recently published an article on "Preparing for an H1N1 Outbreak on Campus" in *Student Affairs Leader*. His wife, **Jana Hardee Hilton '97, M'99**, is a first-grade teacher in the Bethlehem Area School District.

Hilton Head, S.C., resident **Melissa Wagner '95** is a physical therapist with Horizon Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine.

**Melanie "Taylor" Monaghan Bradburn '96** is an on-air personality with Buckhead and Bubba in the morning on B94 radio (93.7 FM) in Pittsburgh.

In September, **William Mumaw '96** was installed as pastor of Center Presbyterian Church in Slippery Rock.

**Maria Bendon Preusser '97** recently passed the examination for Certified Lighting Consultant—the highest designation offered by the American Lighting Association. She has been employed since 2005 by the Hite Company and is showroom coordinator in Altoona, where she and her husband, James, live.

IUP faculty member **Melissa**





For seven years, **Heather Empfield '94** was autism coordinator and teacher of children with autism in the Stafford (Va.) County Public Schools. She was instrumental in planning and developing a day school in Falmouth that would serve students

whose autism and intellectual and emotional disabilities require a highly structured environment with minimal distraction, small student-to-staff ratio, and intense behavioral interventions. Heather died unexpectedly last May, and in November, the Heather Empfield Day School and Transition Center was dedicated in her memory. The recipient of a master's degree in special education from the University of Louisville in 2003, Heather had also taught in Maryland and in Essex County, Va. In her work, she was able to use both her teaching skills and her creativity. Her father, Bob Empfield, lives in Penn Run, Pa. "When I used to tell people about Heather's work, I always ended with 'She is good at what she does,'" he said. "I knew she was good, but until [the school dedication] I didn't fully realize what an expert in autism she really was. Heather had a vision for this school for the last several years. She was so excited about creating this special facility for her kids."

A professional development fund for Stafford County school employees has also been established and named the Heather M. Empfield Scholarship in Autism.

**Swauger '97** was selected by *Pittsburgh Magazine* for its 40 under 40 listing in the November 2009 issue. The selection includes "40 inspirational, successful, generous men and women from our region, all under age 40, who represent the best in Pittsburgh's present and future." An assistant professor in IUP's Sociology Department, Swauger also works with several organizations, including Gwen's Girls, which offers programming to eight-to-eighteen-year-olds, and the Girls Coalition of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

**Mike Gazda '98** is director of baseball media relations for the Washington Nationals.

**Heather Renyck '99** returned to IUP in November to present "Motivating Your Students and Keeping Yourself Inspired at the Same Time: Professional Development Strategies for Current and Future Science Teachers." She has taught in a variety of schools and has traveled the world, participating in earth science research projects on land and at sea. Her most recent research experience was as a member of the National Science Foundation-funded School of Rock program.

## ● 2000s

**Jamie Heider Beach '00, '01** lives in Jacksonville, N.C., with her husband, Ben, a Marine Corps captain, and children Kendall, three, and Isaac, one. She occasionally works as an R.N. for an oncology clinic and volunteers as family readiness advisor for her husband's squadron and in activities of the First Baptist Church. There are photos in Alumni Extra.

### • EXTRA

Myzewell, the three-piece band in which **Mark Eichenberger '03** is the bassist and **T. J. Isenberg '06** is the

lead singer and guitarist, kicked off its East Coast tour in September at Diesel Club Lounge on Pittsburgh's South Side.

Associated with ATI Allegheny Ludlum since 2006, **Rob Cartia '04** has an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh and recently contributed an article to the American Society for Quality's *Quality Progress* publication. He's also the father of two.

**Joel Goodling '04** and his production team won an Emmy for the *Red Bull Air Race World Series* in the Technical Team Remote category. Joel is currently a producer at Spike TV.

At an October recognition luncheon in which Jill Biden was keynote speaker, **Ronika Money M'04** was honored as an outstanding alumna of Delaware Futures, a Wilmington-based nonprofit that helps at-risk high school students get to college. Of the 131 students who have gone through the program since 1993, 125 have gone on to college, and the remaining six have entered the military. Ronika is coordinator for student services and involvement at Penn State University-Brandywine.

The InternationalList section in *Newsweek's* September 28, 2009, issue included a piece by **Haider Mullick '04, M'08** on "Taliban 2.0 in Pakistan." He is a senior fellow at the U.S. Joint Special Operations University, a research fellow at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, and the author of the forthcoming book *Pakistan's Security Paradox: Countering and Fomenting Insurgencies*.

A photo of Alpha Xi Delta sisters who attended the wedding of **Jessica Necker '04** and Sean McAlonan appears in *IUP Magazine's* Web Extra. They include **Brittany Kemp, Mary Judge Skurecki '02, Becky Smolens '02, Amber Shutter '03, Katie McAlonan**



Save the Date

THE 2010 IUP

# LEGACY GALA

*A salute to IUP's Preeminent Regional Achievers—  
An Evening of Celebration for Friends and Alumni*

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Carnegie Museum Music Hall Foyer

6:00 Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, and Silent Auction

7:40 Dinner and Presentation of Presidential Legacy Awards

9:00 Music and Dancing

Benefits the University Fund For Academic Excellence

Black tie

Table purchases encouraged

For more information, visit [www.iup.edu/gala](http://www.iup.edu/gala) or call 412-258-2724

Vahey '03, Jamie Fleming  
Walsh '03, Danielle Ferri  
Crane '04, Kim Lennon '05,  
and Alyssa Hunter Keebler '06.

EXTRA

When Audra George '05 and  
Jeremy Black were married in  
September, there was a lot of  
IUP representation, including  
Audra's parents, Teresa Snyder

George '75 and John George  
'73. Wedding party members  
included maid of honor Sara  
Baur '05 and bridesmaids  
Melissa Sheaffer Neiman '05  
and Lisa Lichty '05. Among the  
guests were Nicole English '05,  
Nick Gursky '05, Elaine Merkel  
'05, Bryan Daniels '06,  
Jonathan Neiman '06, Mike  
Orangis '06, and Devon  
Rankin '06.

Deployed to Afghanistan in  
late summer, 1st Lt. Mark  
Collins '06 is looking forward  
to some R&R this spring. He  
received a master's degree in  
public policy from Georgetown  
University in 2008.

Altoona Mirror reporter and  
page designer Ashley Gurbal  
'06 recently won both first-  
place and honorable-mention  
awards from the Pennsylvania  
Women's Press Association.

Since mid-November, per-  
cussionist Chris Wengert M'08  
has been on a fifteen-week tour

throughout Canada with the  
Olympic torch relay. The  
culminating scheduled  
performance will be February  
12, when the cauldron is lit in  
Vancouver, site of the 2010  
Olympics. Chris normally lives  
in New York City.

A student in the College  
of Optometry at Indiana  
University at Bloomington,  
Kelly Siebert '09 participated  
in an international conference  
even before graduating from  
IUP's Robert E. Cook Honors  
College last spring. Thanks to  
funding from the Cook Honors  
College Achievement Fund, she  
attended the Unite for Sight  
Global Health Conference at  
Yale University. Honors College  
senior Christopher Stanis,  
from Friendsville, Pa., had the  
opportunity to volunteer with  
Unite for Sight in the West  
African nation of Ghana  
last summer.

IUP Journalism students and

A reporter for the Clearfield Progress, Liza Matia '05 wrote a  
section of a McGraw-Hill criminology textbook, *Taking Sides:  
Clashing Views in Crime and Criminology*. Ninth Edition. The  
book was published in September. Liz's contribution is based  
on interviews she did with parents whose children had been  
murdered. According to the McGraw Hill-Higher Education  
website, "Writer Liza Matia argues that changing the law to  
allow parole for juvenile murderers would be devastating to  
the families of the victims of these crimes. Moreover, it is  
fundamentally unfair to make victims' families worry that  
previously convicted offenders may later be considered for  
early release. Human Rights Watch asserts, however, that  
'life-without-parole laws' are unnecessarily harsh when  
applied to juvenile offenders." Liza's original reporting for the  
*Progress* appeared in November 2008.



faculty members and friends and family of **Kristen Stormer '09** participated in a 5K Run/Walk in November to benefit a scholarship fund established in her memory. A month after graduation, Kristen died in an accident in Ocean City, Md., where she worked as a beach photographer. Donations to the fund, housed in the Foundation for IUP, may be sent to the IUP Journalism Department, 434 Davis Hall, Indiana, PA 15705, with checks made payable to the Kristen Anne Stormer Memorial Scholarship Fund #5297.

#### REUNION NOTICES

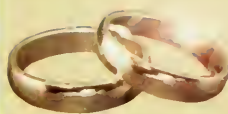
The **IUP Women's Rugby Team** is celebrating thirty years as a club sport at IUP. Those who participated in women's rugby are invited to contact the Office of Alumni Relations at

[alumni-relations@iup.edu](mailto:alumni-relations@iup.edu) to receive information regarding reunion plans. Male players are also asked to make contact regarding spring games.

**Residents and Friends from Fifth-Floor Esch, 1981-82**, are invited to contact Joe Kralik '87 at [whoofunn@gmail.com](mailto:whoofunn@gmail.com) to help plan a reunion.

**Kittanning Campus Students from 1984-85** are invited to a twenty-five-year reunion on July 24. Contact Cathy Roman '89 at [cathyrom@comcast.net](mailto:cathyrom@comcast.net) or Mike Singer '88 at [mwsinger1@yahoo.com](mailto:mwsinger1@yahoo.com) for details.

**IUP's 2010 Southwest Florida Alumni Events** are scheduled for February 26 and 27 at Lely Resort, Naples, Fla. For more information on this fourteenth annual weekend, visit [www.iup.edu/alumni](http://www.iup.edu/alumni) or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-937-2487.



## weddings

### 1970s

Gail Waltz Glass '76 to Robert Wagner, May 25, 2009.

### 1980s

Joseph Kralik '87 to Barbara Cyphers, October 23, 2009.

### 1990s

David Galione '91 to Christine Fraley, July 17, 2009.

Jay Rendin '92 to Elizabeth Krasucki, October 16, 2009.

Matthew Devenuto '97 to Amy Sabo, May 30, 2009.

Renee Rumbaugh '99 to Michael Eiseman, August 9, 2008.

### 2000s

Courtney McClinton '03 to Kyle Epler, September 10, 2009.

Jessica Necker '04 to Sean McAlonan, June 20, 2009.

Audra George '05 to Jeremy Black, September 19, 2009.

Abigail Apter '07, M'08 to Jason Rose '07, November 29, 2008.

## Watch your mailbox for the Summer issue of *IUP Magazine*, delivered in July.

It'll have a feature on IUP's legendary ROTC program, a story on an IUP alumnus with a very exciting job, and details of the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Awards presentations.

Suspension of the magazine's Spring issue is being made in response to budgetary considerations. In the meantime, you'll find updated exclusives on the magazine's website and news and photos about alumni in Alumni Extra. Visit [www.iup.edu/magazine](http://www.iup.edu/magazine).

Also, stay connected to IUP with Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and more. Visit [www.iup.edu/socialmedia](http://www.iup.edu/socialmedia).





# arrivals

## 1980s

To **Scott Leah '86** and Mary Leah, a daughter, Reagan Nichole, September 3, 2009. To **Phil Bellios '87** and Toulia Bellios, a son, Constantine, March 27, 2009. To **John Carns '89, M'94** and Lisa Carns, a son, Wilhelm Elliott, August 26, 2009.

## 1990s

To **Dawn Macasek Shields '93, '94** and Daniel Shields, a son, Colton Joseph, May 11, 2009. To **Rebecca Hoover Timmons '95, '00** and Dave Timmons, a son, Patrick Ryan, September 23, 2009. To **Melanie Monaghan Bradburn '96** and Jason Bradburn, a daughter, Brecklynn Angelina, October 8, 2009. To **Cherie Cinquino Lagomarsino '97** and Scott Lagomarsino, a



daughter, Ava Emilee, June 27, 2008. To **Dennis Lytle '97** and **Joell McDonald Lytle '99**, a son, Collin John, August 11, 2009. To **Renee Rumbaugh Eiseman '99** and Michael Eiseman, a daughter, Olivia Marie, August 9, 2009. To **Brywn Schilling-Obijuru '99** and Chinedu Obijuru, a son, Kugaobi Leam, January 30, 2009. To **David Saurman '99** and Petronya Saurman, a son, Chase, October 22, 2008. To **Carolyn Walker Shank '99** and Jason Shank, a son, William David, June 8, 2009. To **Randy Weston '99** and **Michelle Foreback Weston '01**, a son, Collin Domenic, February 2, 2009.

## 2000s

To **Jamie Heider Beach '00, '01** and Ben Beach, a son, Isaac Carter, September 7, 2008. To **Tiffany Shinsky Neal '01, M'03** and Francis Neal, a son, Francis Xavier, June 22, 2009. To **Jessica Mayer Samogala '01, M'02** and **Michael Samogala '02, M'04**, a son, Owen Michael, May 27, 2009. To **Karla Marcus Silbaugh '01** and **Loren Silbaugh M'06**, a daughter, Sydney Anne, July 2, 2009. To **Courtney McClinton Epler '03** and **Kyle Epler**, a son, Owen, July 4, 2009.

● **JAZZ HAND:** Award-winning composer, arranger, and conductor Marvin Hamlisch came to campus in October as the seventeenth recipient of the Helwig Distinguished Artist Award. The award was created by Florence Helwig in honor of her late husband, Wilfred E. Helwig. Hamlisch conducted an open rehearsal with members of the IUP Jazz Ensemble, with whom he later performed three big-band arrangements as part of his appearance in Fisher Auditorium.



Keith Boyer

● **JESSICA BUSH WARMAN '03** is the author of the young adult novel *Breathless*, which was published last summer. She talked about the novel and about publishing in general at a campus session last fall sponsored by IUP Women's Studies and the English Department.



Keith Boyer

● **UNDER ROOF:** What will soon be the Ed Fry Arena took shape as construction of the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex progressed in November.



Bill Hamilton





## deaths

- 1923:** Isabel Cost Vogel.
- 1930:** Valentina Wolodkevich Berexa, Dorothy Gotwald Straitiff.
- 1931:** Nellie Empfield Clark, Martha Ely, Virginia Kelly Lauderbaugh.
- 1932:** Mary Schwab Keen.
- 1933:** Neoma Christenson Johnson.
- 1934:** Leila Compton White.
- 1935:** Cornelia Price Andersen.
- 1941:** James O'Toole, Beth Munro Vinton.
- 1942:** Mary Hancock Harkleroad, Robert Hermann\*, Virginia Pugliese Vaughn.
- 1943:** Emma Wetzel Fedoryk, Jennie Kauffman Rodgers, Florence Vaughn Welty.
- 1944:** Amy Luffy Key, Aleene Neal Walker.
- 1945:** Mary Jane Christ Brombacher.
- 1946:** Joseph Bona, Lisa Polman Burger.
- 1948:** Cecelia Rutledge.
- 1949:** Florence Benko Brnetich.
- 1950:** Alphonse Pomocky.
- 1951:** Velma Bowser George, Charles Marchyshyn.
- 1953:** Georgie Funk, Jean Caldwell Jenkins, Patricia Shiveley Lindemann, Joan Johnson Riefer.
- 1954:** Luana Knavel Hiteshew, Vivian Shusta Holmes.
- 1955:** Suzanne McClements Lucas.
- 1957:** Antonia Mango.
- 1958:** John Creigh.
- 1959:** Sharon Turley Kerr\*.
- 1960:** Bruce DeLoche, Thomas Heard, Oliver Shields.
- 1962:** Donald Gill.
- 1963:** Janet Neigh.
- 1966:** Patricia Gottardi.
- 1967:** Myron "Ron" Jennings, Katherine Burns Sosinski.
- 1967:** Martha Prosser Bell.
- 1968:** Francis Metalonis.
- 1969:** Peggy Quinn, John Reddinger.
- 1970:** Bonnie Bridigum Meyer, Betty Shortencarier Westwood.
- 1975:** Jhan Learn, James Rainey (M).
- 1977:** Lawrence Franzi (M), Sandra Fox Sell.
- 1979:** Jeffrey Cummings, Lawrence Mason (M).
- 1980:** Linda Posney Spinelli (M).
- 1982:** Holly Blair-Spellman, Joanne Gump, Theodore Smouse.
- 1984:** Kimlee Clark-Kersey, Paul Mocek.
- 1987:** David Seidel.
- 1990:** Jeffrey Neral.
- 1991:** Christine Derbish.
- 2002:** Nathan Miller.
- 2005:** Justin Smith.
- 2006:** Jessica Aaron (AA).

## other deaths

**Margaret Gisolo**, a long-ago ISTC faculty member, died October 20, 2009. More information appears in the Mentors section of this issue.

**Judith McDonough**, who taught at IUP from 1992 until her retirement in 2004, died October 6, 2009.

**James Reilly**, a faculty member in the College of Education and Educational Technology from 1968 to 1988, died October 24, 2009.

**Shawn Williams**, a student in the College of Health and Human Services from Lucernemines, died October 18, 2009.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Continued*

strategically enriched our academic offerings, including three new master's programs and two new doctoral programs.

We truly are moving forward on many fronts. This fall, we broke all previous admissions records, with a student enrollment of 14,638. Ten students and fifty-nine faculty members have been selected for Fulbright Scholarships since the program's inception. In the last decade, thirty students have won international awards and scholarships, ranging from Goldwaters to National Science Foundation fellowships. For the first time in IUP's history, an IUP student has been selected as the top ROTC cadet in the nation.

We also realized a 110 percent fund-raising increase in new gifts and pledges this past year and a 14 percent increase in corporate and foundation giving.

We continue to be recognized by prestigious guidebooks and publications. IUP has been featured, for nine consecutive years, in Princeton Review's *Best Colleges* guidebook and last fall appeared in its listing of Best Northeastern Colleges. In 2008, IUP was selected for the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and the listing of "colleges that make a difference" compiled by *Washington Monthly*. Both honors were new to IUP.

While change is necessary and inevitable, we will continue to hold true to the core values IUP has developed over its 135-year history. These include a high standard of academic excellence, outstanding research and scholarship, student-centeredness, community partnerships, and civic engagement.

I continue to be honored to serve as your president, and I take great pride in the outstanding accomplishments of IUP students, faculty, and alumni. I can also assure you that we will continue to do everything in our power to ensure that your pride and affection for this wonderful institution remain steadfast. 🍂

*Tony Atwater*

\*current or former faculty member, staff member, or administrator



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IUP Music Theater, directed by Sarah Mantel, performed selections from *The Merry Widow* at IUP Plays Pittsburgh in November. The annual Heinz Hall event showcases the musical talents of IUP students and faculty members.